

ACORN

The Journal of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario





ACORN

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to preserve buildings
and structures of
architectural merit and
places of natural beauty
or interest.**

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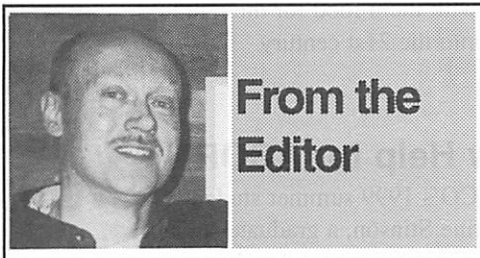
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**From the
Editor**

*What is a church?
Our honest sexton tells,
Tis a tall building,
with a tower and bells.
George Crabbe*

The destitute displaced North Americans who came into the area [now southern Ontario] after the American Revolution, and the hopeful hoards of Europeans who followed, required the sustaining force of strong religious conviction if they were to survive the long years of toil, deprivation and epidemic implicit in a pioneer existence. They had such faith and they built for it, places of worship which were temples of the spirit, social centres of the growing communities, and all too frequently, the only buildings in which they could afford the luxury of beautiful space.

Marion MacRae and Anthony Adamson, from *Hallowed Walls: Church Architecture of Upper Canada*, 1975

Starting this issue, the last of the century, we begin a series of issues focusing on ecclesiastical architecture.

Whether we are believers or not, churches inspire a sort of awe unique among our old buildings. Is this because more than most buildings they are so heavily symbolic, representing as they do a statement of faith or conviction in things that go way beyond the bricks-and-mortar here-and-now? And does not this mystery about them, this other-world connection, as much as their size, beauty and imposing proportions, help better make the case, where the case must be made, for their preservation? For it does seem that the conservationist argument is rather easier with churches: "the 'why' is plain as way to parish church."

Perhaps more than any other, the name of A. K. Sculthorpe is closely associated with

the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. A. K.'s recent investiture into the Order of Ontario should be a source of great pride for us all.

Finally, I would like to express my personal thanks to Paul Dilse, departing Consulting Heritage Manager for the ACO, for all his encouragement and support to me as Editor of ACORN. All the best, Paul, and don't be a stranger.

Dan Schneider



**President's
Message**

With this issue of ACORN, we bid adieu to the 20th century, appreciating the foresight and dedication of the many who have worked so diligently through the decades to persuade Ontarians of the eminence of our architectural and natural heritage, and at the same time anticipating the new millennium and an Ontario more aware and grateful of its history, its structures and its landscapes.

On October 25, 1999, A.K. Sculthorpe received the Order of Ontario. On behalf of the ACO, congratulations and best wishes, A.K.! We all take pride in celebrating with you this great honour and distinction.

Recently, there have been some changes in the ACO office. Paul Dilse, our long-time Consulting Heritage Manager, left the ACO at the end of September. Paul was with us for five years and we appreciate his dedication to the ACO and especially his accomplishment in building up the Advisory Board. Paul is continuing his career as a heritage consultant and author. We wish him continued success and every happiness.

With the invaluable assistance of the firm of Genovese Vanderhoof, we have hired Patricia Neal as Office Manager. Patricia

has considerable experience in the heritage field, most recently with the City of Vaughan. We are pleased to welcome Patricia and look forward to working with her.

We would like to express our appreciation to the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation for its ongoing support through financial assistance and staff advice. Likewise, we are grateful for the generous support of our members and donors that ensures the continued success of the ACO.

With this issue of ACORN, we are starting a thematic series focusing on religious architecture. As this is an area of particular interest to me personally, I welcome this initiative and the discussion it will generate.

With all best wishes to you and your families for the holiday season and the new millennium!

Mary Angela Tucker

Council News

1999 Gala Dinner

Over one hundred guests attended our 4th Annual Fundraising Dinner, Saturday, November 13, at the Arts & Letters Club in downtown Toronto. Included was a silent auction and a banquet dinner. Award-winning architect George Baird OAA, FRAIC was our guest speaker. Baird presented several projects, built and unbuilt, where an important heritage building was threatened by a new development. He outlined the various schemes proposed for Toronto's first City Hall by the developers of the Eaton's Centre—one scheme thought it enough to retain only the clock tower. Ending his talk with a slide of the Great Hall in Toronto's Union Station, Baird noted that if we do not find a current use for old buildings, there is no use in saving them. Those attending left having met with friends, eaten a gourmet meal and

taken with them food for thought to carry into the 21st century.

New Help for ACORN

The ACO's 1999 summer students, Catherine Stinson, a graduate student in computer science at the University of Toronto, and Mark Pupo, a graduate student in English at McGill University, have joined the team responsible for the production of ACORN. Both Mark and Catherine have had experience in publishing the U of T newspaper, so they took on the project of the ACORN layout for the last issue as well as the current one. The ACO is very fortunate to have the opportunity of continuing to work with these students on our journal, now published three times a year.

Council Meeting

Jim Douglas, President of the Belfountain Heritage Society, hosted the September Provincial Council meeting at the Belfountain Village Church Hall. He and his wife, Myfanwy, very graciously planned the meeting with coffee, tea and delicious snacks and made arrangements for us to eat at the Belfountain Inn. At the end of the meeting, he organized a tour of the Melville White Church, just outside the village. This is a project that the ACO has been supporting and council was able to see first hand the restoration work done by the members of the Melville White Church.

Also at the September meeting, Alison Brown presented the initial recommendations of the By-Laws Review Committee consisting of Alison, Dan Schneider, Marcia Cuthbert and Terry Foord. It is hoped that the final recommendations will be considered by council at its January meeting so that a revised by-law can be prepared for adoption at the AGM in April.

Mary Glendinning

A.K. Sculthorpe Receives Order of Ontario

On October 25, 1999, Mrs. A. K. Sculthorpe of Port Hope was invested in the Order of Ontario by the Honourable Hilary Weston, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, at a ceremony at Queen's Park in Toronto.

The following citation was read at the investiture:

Since moving to Port Hope in 1949, Alice King Sculthorpe has displayed an unmatched loyalty and passion for her area and its buildings and landmarks.

As a heritage and conservation champion, she has worked on Willow Beach Field Naturalists and Peter's Woods, an area of forest preserved and dedicated to her brother Peter Schultz.

Mrs. Sculthorpe has also been the director of the Capital Theatre Heritage Foundation, and helped raise \$1.5 million to preserve and convert the old movie house in Port Hope to a majestic theatre for live performances. She has also helped save the Memorial Bandshell, St. Mark's Church and the Midland Hotel.

Through her passion and persistence, Mrs. Sculthorpe helped maintain and preserve Port Hope's Walton Street Heritage District. Consisting of 79 buildings, it is regarded as one of Canada's best 19th century streetscapes.

Her strong reputation in local conservation was further reinforced by her spearheading the full restoration of the 1856 Canadian National Railway Station in Port Hope.

Mrs. Sculthorpe served two separate

terms as President of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, a society dedicated to preserving the best examples of Ontario's architecture.

Mrs. Sculthorpe was also a key member in the group that created a Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee in Port Hope. Her work led to the declaration of the Marsh Inn and Wesleyville Church as heritage buildings.

In 1993, Mrs. Sculthorpe was on the board of EnerGreen which launched the Green Streets Canada program. She personally helped to plant more than 200 trees in Port Hope.

It is undoubtedly her true love for the area in which she lives that drives Mrs. Sculthorpe to ensure its preservation.

* * * * *

A. K. was nominated for the Order of Ontario by Sascha Armour, the co-chair of the Port Hope LACAC. The following is taken from her letter of nomination.

My reasons for making this nomination:

Rarely in life does one have the opportunity to work with an exceptional person. A person with vision, a person whose sincerity and strong conviction make you feel you must be involved with her endeavours. One who has the enviable ability and reputation for getting people together to further worthwhile causes and endeavours that will benefit Ontario. Alice King Sculthorpe is the embodiment of these qualities.

While raising, with her husband Bob, an active family of four, A.K., (as she is fondly known) has given of her time, knowledge and boundless energy. A.K. has initiated and piloted endless projects always with a hands-on approach. From digging holes for tree renewal to saving heritage buildings from the ravages of the wrecking ball she has been front and centre. Young

and old have benefited and had their lives enriched from her initiatives and those with terminal illness have been a witness to her sensitivity and awareness.

A.K. has initiated and enthusiastically orchestrated many community and provincial projects. A great deal of her life has been dedicated to preserving Ontario's heritage and its wildlife and



A.K. Sculthorpe with Lieutenant Governor Hilary Weston at A.K.'s investiture in the Order of Ontario
photo: John Smee

ecology to ensure a better and enriched world for future generations.

A.K. is a valuable, prominent and informed member (20 years) and past chair of the Port Hope Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) founded in 1978. Port Hope's LACAC is a very active and successful committee, that with the help of Ontario's Heritage Act, has been responsible for the designation of over 200 buildings in Port Hope. Guiding us through this process has been A.K. with her wealth of knowledge and sound advice.

As a conservator she has made conservation, preservation, restoration and education a prime concern in her life. A.K. contributes her expertise organizing workshops and seminars on restoration across Ontario. Other communities consider Port Hope to be a model of a co-operative approach to heritage preservation, due in large

part to A.K.'s efforts.

If not for her vision and persistence Port Hope's Walton Street Heritage District, consisting of some 79 buildings, could not have been maintained or preserved. It is one of Ontario and Canada's best-preserved 19th century streetscapes. The district was dedicated in December of 1998. The official ceremony was performed by the Honourable Isabel Bassett, [then] Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation. As part of the day's event A.K., with the minister in attendance, conducted an architectural and historical tour of Walton Street.

Her research and recording of historical and architectural data has been and will be a valuable resource for students, the Town of Port Hope and all of Ontario.

Port Hope LACAC unanimously supports this nomination and recognizes A.K.'s contribution to the awareness of Ontario's rich history. Details of A.K.'s accomplishments are confirmed in the 13 enclosed letters and several additional letters we expect you to receive within the next few weeks.

The people of Ontario are the beneficiaries of all A.K.'s achievements.

So it is with pride and great pleasure I nominate Alice King Sculthorpe as deserving of the prestigious Order of Ontario.

Doors Open in Glasgow and Edinburgh, Soon in Toronto!

Imagine hundreds of people lined up to see the interior of an interesting building. Imagine thousands and thousands of people walking around a city with brochures guiding

them on a tour of the hidden interiors of its most fascinating structures. Imagine cab drivers giving advice on the best sites to visit and debating the merits of the work of the city's different architects, past and present.

This is just what a scouting party from Heritage Toronto observed in both Glasgow and Edinburgh on a recent visit. We were there to get a first hand look at how the Doors Open program operates in Scotland.

Heritage Toronto, in partnership with several other organizations is hoping to operate the first North American Doors Open Program next year. In doing so Toronto will be joining a movement that has swept Europe. For what is called European Heritage Days, one or two days in September, private buildings which are not generally available to the public are opened free of charge. Some owners even serve tea and cakes to visitors! In many cases staff members volunteer as tour guides. The program is magical in that it allows proud building owners to show off their properties and creates real enthusiasm for good buildings in the community at large.

Richard Murphy, an Edinburgh architect, has had 800 people come through his house every time it has been in the Doors Open tour. People have lined up for hours. He commented it was good for his practice. Many other building owners agreed that opening their buildings makes for good public relations.

Our Scottish hosts were extremely generous in inviting us to observe the mechanics of the program in the offices of the Scottish Civic Trust in Glasgow, as well as taking us around to some of the sites. The Scottish Civic Trust co-ordinates the program in several cities in Scotland. Sir James Dunbar-Nasmith, chair of the Scottish Civic Trust (a distant cousin of the writer), made the trip financially feasible for the Canadian party by very generously offering accommodation at his Edinburgh flat. We came back with samples of the administrative materials

used, publicity strategies and lots of useful advice.

We are hoping that if the Toronto program is a success the idea will spread to other communities across North America.

If you know of a building that you think should be included in Toronto's Doors Open program, or can assist in other ways, contact Jane French or Karen Black at Heritage Toronto.

Hope to see you at Toronto's Doors Open Day. We'll keep you posted.

Catherine Nasmith

Catherine Nasmith is an architect with Catherine Nasmith Architect and is a member of the ACO Advisory Board.

Branch Reports

LONDON REGION BRANCH

Conference and AGM - April 16-18, 1999

Although the ACO '99 Conference was six months ago, as conference co-chair I would like to thank again all those who made it a success. I received many compliments as well as a number of suggestions as to how to make it better for next year. Good luck to Port Hope who will be hosting the conference next April.

"Cottage Country: Cottages of South London"

"Cottage Country: Cottages of South London" attracted almost 400 people on Sunday, June 6. This year's 26th anniversary Geranium Walk featured solely cottages of a variety of styles: Ontario cottages, side hall plan cottages, Italianate cottages, and Queen Anne cottages in London's historical Old South, just west of Wortley Village. Eight homes were open to be explored and learned from, as well as two area churches, with excellent details to look at on the houses in

between. Our 24 page accompanying booklet this year featured many photographs as well as historical and architectural descriptions of the homes on view. Our guides inside further extolled the architectural characteristics of each house.

We were complimented by a number of the attendees on the "theming" of the walk as a good way of distinguishing differences within the same architectural form.

Funding the Shanly Town House

This summer we funded a detailed art conservation report by art conservator Keith Bantock, for a set of hand-painted wall murals in the dining rooms of a designated private house on Piccadilly Street in London (see photos). The wall murals, depicting rural and pastoral scenes, may date back to the building of the house in 1872. The word "Muskoka" can be seen on one of the panels. Because the murals are not currently part of the "Reasons for Designation," we have asked that the murals be included in the "Reasons" as a condition of funding the report.

The current owners of the house should be commended. They bought the house in a sad state a few years ago and have slowly restored it to its former glory.

"Heritage Resource" Forum

We have been part of about 22 heritage-related groups and museums in London (both profit and non-profit) that were brought together in April at the request of City Hall to talk about



*Exterior of the Shanley House, London
photo: Alison Brown*

the state of, and examine the next steps for, heritage preservation in London. After the initial meeting, attended by about 50 people, we determined that we shared a number of similar concerns.

There was an overriding consensus that "heritage" needs to be more accessible and a priority to those not directly in the field (the schools, the city administration, general public, etc.). At the time of writing we have had \$150,000 approved by City Council, in a draft budget, towards hiring a consultant to prepare a business plan, a socio-economic impact statement and a marketing strategy.

This is a fantastic opportunity for all heritage groups in London to work together to share the same ends. As far as we know, this is the only one of its kind in Ontario!

642 Beaverbrook Demolished

The Ontario Cottage at 642 Beaverbrook in London (see the Winter 1998 issue of ACORN) was demolished at the end of April after a lengthy struggle for its preservation. Valiant attempts were made to relocate the cottage, including establishing another Heritage Conservation District in Byron which would have accepted it, as well as a private offer to buy the house and move it to Komoka. Unfortunately both those options fell through. However, to their credit, the developers, who originally applied for demolition, have given \$10,000 to the London Endowment for Heritage Fund. This Fund supports the preser-

vation of designated properties in London.

Reprinting of *Downtown London: Layers Of Time*

For those who missed this fabulous book on London's downtown history and architecture, there will be another reprinting of *Downtown London: Layers Of Time* this fall, available through City Hall. The reprinting, undertaken by London's Advisory Committee on Heritage (formerly LACAC), is expected to include an index this time. Although the ACO was quite involved in the first printing, we are not involved this time around.

Alison Brown

PORT HOPE

A. K. Sculthorpe receives Order of Ontario

Port Hope Branch of the ACO is a proud supporter of Mrs. Alice King Sculthorpe, 1999 recipient of the Order of Ontario. A. K., as almost everyone in Ontario conservation circles calls her, received the Order of Ontario from Lieutenant Governor Hilary Weston on October 25 at Queen's Park. Her nomination by local admirers, Sascha Armour and Farley Mowat, was supported by over 25 letters from groups and individuals with whom she has worked on natural and cultural conservation projects.

The Town of Port Hope designated November 7, 1999 as A. K. Sculthorpe Day and held a huge reception at the Town Hall for her friends and admirers throughout the province. As a Branch we couldn't be prouder of our spiritual leader and foremost volunteer.

Other Branch Activities

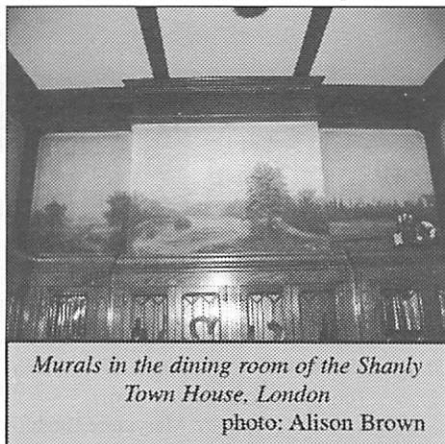
We've had an exciting year for the ACO, Port Hope Branch, and its large flock of volunteers. In June, Heather MacKinnon and her committee successfully hosted the Sotheby's Heirloom Discovery Day that drew participants, with their treasures, from all over Northumberland County and

beyond.

On July 10, Ian and Eleanor Campbell and their committee organized another highly successful and fully sold-out Garden Tour, which shared eight wonderful and different gardens with over 1000 visitors. The Garden Tour was complemented by the wonderful Garden Tea hosted by Anne Riddell and her committee at the Penryn Park Estate.

During the summer, an international expert on public statuary, Virginia Naudé, polished and restored the statue of Lieutenant Colonel. Arthur Williams, which graces the lawn of our Town Hall. The Port Hope branch paid for the materials and scaffolding, while Virginia donated her time and skill in honour of the 50th anniversary of her uncle and aunt, Bob and A. K. Sculthorpe. Over 100 people attended the summer barbeque, held in the gardens of the Butternut Inn (home of Branch President Bob Harrison and his wife Bonnie) on the evening of Wednesday, August 25. This wonderful event was organized by Helen Strathy and dedicated to all our volunteers.

On October 2, Betty Ann Knutson and her committee hosted the Annual ACO Port Hope House Tour which attracted about 1500 visitors to our community. The Tour involves almost 200 volunteers at the houses, in the participating churches, and at the headquarters. While this volunteer commitment on the big day itself is amazing, it is the months of preparation beforehand that require hours and hours of professional-level skills from all the volunteer committee members. Branch director Helen Strathy has been involved with the House Tour Committee for many years and was selected by our Branch to make a presentation to the first-ever "Cultural Heritage Tourism in Ontario: Partnering for New Opportunities" conference in Pembroke, October 18 to 21. Helen's presentation was entitled "Port Hope Annual House Tour: an example of cultural heritage tourism" and emphasized the benefits of partner-



Murals in the dining room of the Shantly Town House, London
photo: Alison Brown

ing in a small community.

On Thanksgiving weekend, Port Hope celebrated The Great Farini's Heritage Festival. ACO branch members and LACAC members led walking tours of downtown Port Hope, our heritage conservation district and our historical sites of interest. An information kiosk with ACO material was also staffed by ACO members.

Dedicated Branch member Daphne Svenningson enchanted her audience once again on November 18 with a slide presentation on the Channel Island of Jersey. Daphne's beautiful photography, melodious score and expert commentary always make her presentations much more an experience than a travelogue.

The Skeena project has been postponed until 2000. Over a year ago, the ACO branch executive decided to support restoration of the brickwork on the Skeena building on Mill Street which houses the Northumberland Sea Cadets and all their activities. After many meetings with contractors, one was selected late this spring, but will not complete the work until next spring. C. Ian P. Tate, Vice President of the Navy League, and Tony Holmes of the Navy League building committee joined with ACO members Sue Stickley, Mell Chapple and A.K. Sculthorpe to seek and review the quotations.

Walton, Ontario and Queen streets are looking much more beautiful this year with their new trees. The ACO Port Hope contributed \$5,000 to this Heritage Business Improvement Association project.

Clay Benson, a committed conservationist and long-time ACO member, has been nominated by the Town of Port Hope for the Ontario Heritage Foundation's 1999 Heritage Community Recognition Program. Clay has preserved a number of buildings in Port Hope with exacting attention to historic and architectural detail. Past area recipients of this award are Don Rumgay, Sascha Armour and A.

K. Sculthorpe. With so many deserving conservationists in our area, we have no shortage of potential nominees for this award in future!

Sue Stickley

SOUTH BRUCE GREY

New Life for St. Ignatius Church, Deemerton

When so many churches are being closed or are facing the possibility of closure, people often wish that something could be done to keep the spirit of the place alive and to find a new use for the building. In Deemerton, great things have happened and are still happening to bring new life to the church and community!

The village was originally called Beaford but, after the opening of the post office in 1877, the name was changed to Deemerton because of the many large Diemert families living in the area. Diemert remains a common family name in the area today.

Jesuit missionaries headquartered in Guelph periodically visited this area between 1852 and 1861, celebrating Mass in private homes. The main priest to serve this area was the Reverend Caspar Matoga, SJ, who walked many times from Guelph, even in winter, to minister to the people in various communities in Bruce and Grey Counties.

A log church was erected in 1856 and Deemerton was constituted a mission of Formosa in 1861. After the new stone church was erected in 1872 beside the log building, Deemerton became a mission of Carlsruhe. The stone rectory was built on the site of the original log church in 1877.

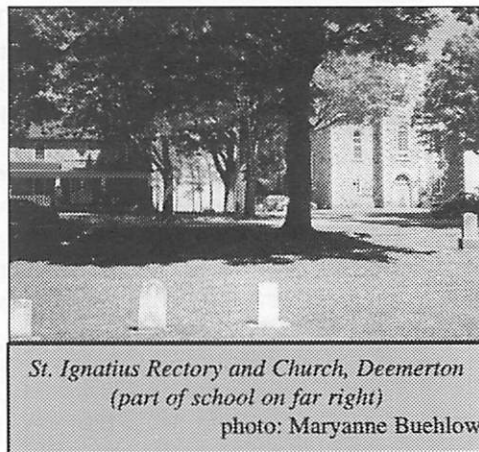
The schoolhouse was also a log building standing between the rectory and the church, quite close to the road. Some of the earliest teachers were men but, when the new brick school was built in 1880, the School Sisters of Notre Dame took charge

and the old school was moved to a location below the cemetery where it was used for many years as a dwelling. The School Sisters of Notre Dame withdrew in 1932 because of decreased enrolment. The school continued to be operated by the school board for a number of years until it was closed and students started attending school in Mildmay.

In 1880 the mission of St. Ignatius became an independent parish with parishes in Neustadt and Mildmay as missions. Mildmay remained a mission until 1895. Neustadt became a mission of Carlsruhe from 1926 to 1934 when it again reverted to Deemerton. It again became a mission of Carlsruhe in 1969 and remains so today.

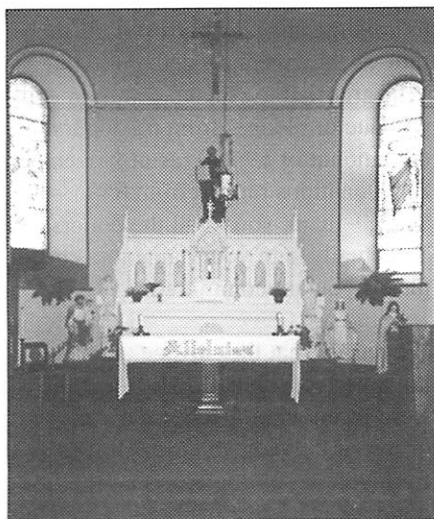
Deemerton remained an independent parish until 1969 when the pastor, the Reverend Harry Schmuck, was transferred to Mildmay. Deemerton became a mission of Mildmay for one year and then was made a mission of Sacred Heart Parish, Walkerton. In 1993, St. Ignatius was to be closed but, with the efforts of parishioners and the Reverend Ed Hinsperger, a native son, who was the pastor in Kincardine at that time, Mass continued to be celebrated weekly until July 1995.

Since then, great changes have taken place and the site developed as the St. Ignatius Formation Centre. The rectory, which had been rented out for many years, was refurbished and a small addition was built to accommodate



*St. Ignatius Rectory and Church, Deemerton
(part of school on far right)*

photo: Maryanne Buehlow



Sanctuary, St. Ignatius, Deemerton
photo: Maryanne Buehlow

more washroom/shower facilities. This building can be used for small conferences or for private gatherings such as family Christmas dinners, and also provides some sleeping quarters. The church has had a kitchen and washrooms installed on the main floor and the sacristy is now a chapel for quiet reflection.

The sanctuary remains untouched so that Mass can still be celebrated for special purposes, such as a funeral, or during retreats. With the pews removed, the large area in front of the sanctuary can be opened up to seat groups of up to 400 people. Half of the main part of the church has had two upper levels built to accommodate the Upper Room (a conference area) and 18 sleeping areas and washroom facilities.

Under the architectural guidance of Grant Diemert and with donations of money and labour, this facility has begun a new life to meet many needs, among which are Marriage Encounter, Engaged Encounter, Cursillio, Confirmation Retreats and much more. As well, the Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board has allowed use of the school as a conference/meeting area.

St. Ignatius Formation Centre operates under a Board of Directors dedicated

to providing a centre for a large variety of programs designed to strengthen both families and communities. The property and buildings remain in the ownership of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Hamilton.

Further information can be obtained by phoning St. Ignatius Formation Centre (519) 367-5496 or contacting Don Elliott at (519) 881-3974.

Maryanne Buehlow

WINDSOR REGION

On May 4, 1999 (the day before the provincial election was called!), Bill PR7, was given Royal Assent. Sponsored by Sandra Pupatello, M.P.P., at the request of the City of Windsor (acting on our suggestion in July 1998), this very important legislation gives designated properties in Windsor more protection from demolition than under the Ontario Heritage Act alone and provides for substantial fines if it is not complied with. City Council will now have a greater ability to prevent the demolition of these important structures when dealing with unsympathetic owners and developers. We are very pleased that Windsor has joined a growing list of Ontario communities that have requested, and received, this additional protection for their heritage buildings.

Also in May, our Annual Meeting was held at Mackenzie Hall, with Eric Jokinen as guest speaker. Eric drew on many years of experience in the heritage conservation/restoration field, both in Canada and abroad, in providing a very interesting and informative presentation.

In June, we launched our first photo contest, "Get The Picture!" We were very pleased with the response—30 entries were received—and plan on another contest next year. The purpose of the contest was to get people out and really looking at the buildings that we too often take for granted. We were especially gratified to have

entries from as far away as St. Thomas and even one from a 12 year-old! Our judges, architects Bill Fraser and Greg McLean and photographers John MacKay and Don Trussler, judged the entries on both architectural merit and quality of the image. The winners were: 1st prize: Ed Goodfellow, Granchanica Serbian Orthodox Church, Windsor; 2nd prize: Ed Goodfellow, Our Lady of the Rosary Church (entrance), Windsor; and 3rd prize: Gord O'Brien, La Maison Francois Baby House (east rear window), Windsor. Our thanks to Harris Marketing & Communications, Preney Print & Litho, MacLarens Photo Lab and Bergeron Art & Frame for their support.

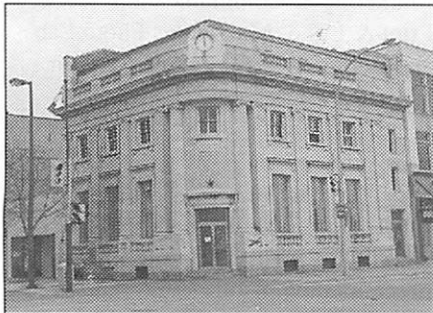
This summer, we also worked in partnership with CBC-TV and the Windsor LACAC to produce 10 "Heritage Highlights." This series of one and two minute vignettes highlights historically important buildings and structures in Windsor: the Ambassador Bridge, the John Richardson Library, the Walker Power Building, the Dominion House Tavern, Our Lady of the Rosary Church, the Norwich Block, St. Clare of Assisi Church, the Low-Martin House, the French Farmsteads and Ford City. They will be aired regularly on CBC-TV. This project was a true partnership—financial assistance was provided by ACO-Windsor Region and CBC-TV, research and scripting by the Windsor LACAC, production by CBC-TV, and photos by the Municipal Archives, Windsor's Community Museum and Ford of Canada. We hope to do more vignettes next year.

On October 22, Pat Malicki received a "Certificate of Recognition" from the Ontario Association of Architects and the St. Clair Society of Architects. The other recipients were Dr. Veronika Mogyorody, Professor at the University of Windsor, Geography/Urban Planning Department; the Windsor LACAC, represented by Rosemarie Denunzio; and Carl Morgan, former editor of The Windsor Star and founding member of Preserve Walkerville

(now the ACO-Windsor Region Branch), founding member of The Friends of the Court (Mackenzie Hall, the former Essex County Courthouse built by Alexander Mackenzie), as well as photographer with a specialty in heritage structures.

Norwich Block—The Die is Cast

On November 8, 1999, the Windsor City Council voted unanimously to dismantle (salvage) the facade of the Dominion Bank Building at the corner of Riverside Drive and Ouellette Avenue.



Dominion Bank Building, Windsor
photo: Nancy Morand

The Department of Public Works structured the demolition tender in four different options, "in response to public support for the salvage of this architecturally significant building" and the recommendation of the Windsor LACAC and the Windsor Region Branch of the ACO. Option 2, which was recommended to City Council, "would allow the salvage of the [T.D. Bank] facade and its temporary storage

at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant."

"There has been community interest expressed in the salvaging of the facade from both heritage interest groups and the public at large. Administration has met with interested parties in the community who are willing to undertake a criteria search to determine the most appropriate location for the re-erection of the facade for a use that would serve the best interests of the community. They have also expressed their willingness to raise funds for the reuse of the former T.D. Bank facade if necessary."

The entire block, known as the Norwich Block, will be demolished to make way for a new development by Canderel Stoneridge. The major tenant of this new development will be Daimler Chrysler Canada. Canderel has insisted over the past almost two years that the Riverside Drive buildings (the only remaining 19th century commercial block in downtown Windsor) could not be incorporated into the new development.

The Dominion Bank Building was designed in the Beaux Arts style by the well known New York architectural firm of Carrere & Hastings and was built in 1908. This firm designed such buildings as the New York City Public Library, the Staten Island Ferry Terminal, the Manhattan Bridge and its approaches, the Frick Mansion (later donated to the City of New York for an art museum), and the Ponce de Leon Hotel in St. Augustine, Florida for the Flagler Railroad Company Windsor is indeed fortunate to have such a gem in its midst.

Up until a month ago, there was no hope of even saving the facade of Windsor's only marble building. At that time, our Mayor issued a challenge to the citizens of Windsor—raise \$100,000 (to be matched by some sort of government grant). The Windsor Region ACO started an informal fundraising campaign (no time to put a proper campaign together), promising

to hold the cheques in trust until such time as they were needed. We were very gratified to receive commitments (cheque or pledge) from 62 donors in the amount of \$9,280 (as of November 8). Donations ranged from \$5 to \$1,200—thank you to all the donors. To actually sign your name to a cheque means you are committed!

We realize that the salvage approach is not a perfect solution. However, we were faced with the choice of "move it or lose it." We have never strayed from voicing our opinion that the first option was to save the building in situ, but we didn't have a choice. Option 3 in the demolition tender (to save some components of the building, such as the entrance, clock, etc.) was not an option as far as we were concerned.

There were some encouraging words from the city councillors this evening—they are starting to realize that these buildings are important to us. The committee to advise on the salvage operation will include members of city administration, the Windsor LACAC, the ACO-Windsor Region Branch, provincial ACO members and other interested citizens.

Thank you to all ACO members and branches for your support. Thank you to all the donors for your support.

Pat Malicki

TORONTO REGION (TRAC)

Tours and Exhibitions

Docent tours for the Eric Arthur exhibition were held throughout January, and were outstandingly successful. The tour groups were, with difficulty, kept to about thirty people each time, so that all could enjoy the tour. It was an important opportunity to review the achievements of Eric Arthur, and enjoy the memories evoked and new perspectives opened. Many thanks to Alec Keefer for his unremitting efforts. The exhibition closed in March, with one last tour.

An exhibition on the old Confederation



Jo Passa, President of the St. Clair Society of Architects, and Pat Malicki with her "Certificate of Recognition"
photo: Nancy Morand

Life building was mounted for two weeks in the main lobby of One Queen Street East, which adjoins the building. The displays attracted much interest by those who work nearby, by those who were just passing through, and by our friends and members who made a special trip to see what was going on. The story of the building as shown in the exhibition was new to many, and quite a few engaged us in conversation as a result! Edna Hudson led two short docent discussions. The location was excellent both for reaching a large number of people and for being in the midst of the architectural topic—the Romanesque Head Office. Copies of our book by the same name were on sale of course.

In the late spring Alec Keefer led two TRAC walks. In May we explored Queen Street West and the community that was the village of Parkdale, and were lead to appreciate some of its history. We started from the old Gladstone Hotel, still an admired landmark and in continuing use as a hotel.

In June, we toured Rusholme Road. This was a joint event with Heritage Toronto and the turnout was huge—about a hundred people. Luckily, the road is not very busy, and is one way too, which lessens the hazards. When Rusholme Road was laid out, the Dennison family insisted that the curbs be no more than 20 feet apart, in order to allow for trees on either side. The trees are still there—they meet gracefully overhead and provide cool shade and a pastoral setting for the Edwardian houses. A lot of interesting chat about architectural design and conservation, the value of heritage and heritage conservation districts, how to do suitable renovations, and so on was stimulated by the walk. We also sold all the copies of our Rusholme Road publication we had with us—we have plenty more at the office though, just send \$5 plus postage!

Union Station

An enlarged canopy was proposed in December 1998, for the east side of Union Station, intended to give shelter

from the weather to sports fans as they walk from the stadium to the train station. This seemed a rather timid approach to addressing a functional problem, and we urged a more complete review.

In May, when a court ruling on payment of back rent was expected, the City of

Toronto set in motion the process to buy the buildings and track at Union Station from the Toronto Terminal Railways company (TTR). This appears to be a positive development as the TTR has been difficult to deal with. The exact terms of the deal are not yet public, but when completed it will likely open the way for much more public debate on what is to be done next. This will focus on two main issues: (1) the development of tracks, passenger handling, etc., to improve the transportation services offered, and (2) the development of commercial retail and office facilities at the site.

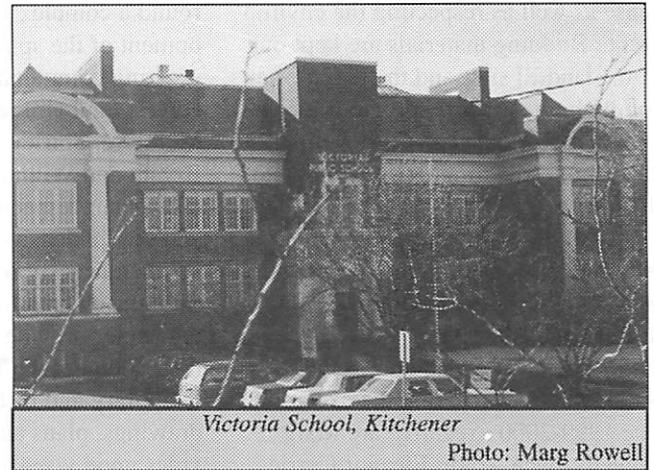
Please stay tuned!

Edna Hudson

NORTH WATERLOO REGION

Our branch held its Annual Meeting in May at Victoria Public School in Kitchener. The former school, built in the early 1900s, was converted to a residence with community meeting rooms and in-fill structures to provide additional living spaces when the school function was no longer needed.

Our speaker for the meeting was Sybil Frenette, the Director of Housing for the Regional Municipality of Waterloo. Sybil spoke about the conversion of Victoria School into a housing complex and the challenges of working with an older building and preserving or reproducing its historic features,



Victoria School, Kitchener

Photo: Marg Rowell

such as the windows (which she advised was a very costly item). Some years ago government money was available to assist with such projects. However these funds are not readily available now, and these types of projects are not being done.

Sybil also described a co-op housing project that was completed in Kitchener's east end. The A. Y. Shantz House, a stucco over brick, two storey gable-roofed house built in the 1850s was converted to living quarters and the property behind it was used to build townhouses. As the house was a designated heritage landmark, the project had to be in keeping with the "Reasons for Designation."

A former factory on Duke Street, in the downtown area, was converted to apartment units. In order to make the project economically feasible, an additional storey was added.

Another site that potentially could have been a housing project was the former Kitchener Gaol. This stone structure with its stone walls surrounding a courtyard has been vacant for many years awaiting a viable use. However, the project was not economically possible without constructing a multi-storey unit in the courtyard and this was not acceptable to Heritage Kitchener (LACAC). Therefore the gaol sits and waits for another idea to surface.

The re-use of older buildings for a new purpose often makes good economic

sense as well as respecting the environment. Building materials are kept out of the landfill sites and the older, often solidly built structure, provides a base on which to expand and use well designed in-fill structures to complete the project.

After the presentation, the normal business of an Annual Meeting was conducted. President Marg Rowell thanked John Boulden and Kathy Smith who were leaving the executive. The 1999-2000 executive are Marg Rowell, Joyce Arndt, Eleanor Currie, Brian Dietrich and Herbert Whitney. We hope to have a very special event in May 2000 to mark our 20th anniversary!

Marg Rowell

Book Review

The Parish and Cathedral Church of St James, Toronto 1797-1997:

a collaborative history

General Editor: William Cooke.

Toronto: The Rector and
Churchwardens of St James'
Cathedral, 1998.

Printed by University of Toronto
Press. 326 pages

This history of St. James Cathedral in downtown Toronto can be seen as an interesting complement to Liz Lundell's 1997 volume, *The Estates of Old Toronto* (reviewed in the Summer 1998 issue of ACORN). While her book deals with the secular world of early Toronto houses, this large collaborative work provides a detailed and comprehensive view of the development of the parish church/cathedral that was a focal point for many of those who built the early estates.

The editors looked to a wide range of writers to tackle the issues that sur-

round a complex subject like the development of the spiritual footing of a growing community. Carl Benn, Alan Hayes, Paul H. Freisen, C. Thomas McIntyre, Shirley Morriss, Giles Bryant and William Cooke have all taken their respective tasks seriously, and their extensive research is presented in an accessible style. Far from jarring, the changes of voice from chapter to chapter provide a variety that makes the reading easy. The range of contemporary and historical photographs, drawings, plans and elevations provides good visual coverage to support the commentary on both the life of the parish and the structures that housed it.

On a personal note, when I was given the book to review, I recognized my father's photograph on the dust jacket. A block of plates in the centre of the book contains more of his work. I am not sure he knew that the pictures he took during the last few months of his life as a memorial to my mother would be used to illustrate this history, but I think he would be pleased. It is certainly a personal joy to see my father's non-commercial photographic work published.

Two chapters might be of special interest to readers of ACORN. The first chapter, "A Georgian Parish, 1797-1839" by Carl Benn, examines the growth of the parish from its inception in the six-year-old Town of York to its assumption of a central role in the early days of Victorian Toronto. The first church building was completed in 1807 and is shown in an early engraving based on recollections of the first warden and "other older parishioners." This engraving is supported by several modern drawings by Douglas Graydon in chapter five.

It is this fifth chapter, "Architecture," that provides the greatest detail on the buildings and their architectural design. Shirley Morriss and Carl Benn trace the development of the church from a plain, clapboard structure to the elaborate Victorian brick and stone edifice, designed by F.W. Cumberland in 1849 that we see today. Shirley

Morriss examines the historical sources to provide a detailed account of the different styles of the succeeding church structures on the site. A wide range of visual material—photographs, engravings and drawings—supports her descriptions. The reproductions of plans and elevations might be clearer, but the details described can still be seen. This chapter also provides brief descriptions of other buildings associated with the cathedral: the rectories, school, parish house, Memorial Cross, and the cemetery with St. James the Less.

This history of the St. James Parish and the Diocese of Toronto provides a great deal of interesting reading, much of it dealing with parish life and times. It is well documented and clearly written. The wide range of illustrative material provides an enriching view of a centre of worship that has been a hub of life in this city for two centuries. It is sad to have lost many of the old estates of Toronto; we may rejoice in the continuing presence of this fine cathedral.

Christopher Cantlon

*Christopher Cantlon teaches English
at Alexander Mackenzie S.S. in
Richmond Hill.*

Advisory Board Report

St. Ann's Church, Penetanguishene

*[Editor's Note: the following is a brief
summary of the report prepared in
June 1998.]*

Ian McGillivray, member of the Advisory Board of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, visited St. Ann's Church in Penetanguishene at the request of the Penetanguishene

LACAC. LACAC was seeking advice on design guidelines that would be appropriate for evaluating a new addition to the church.

St. Ann's Church is a historic building built between 1885 and 1906. Built of pink granite and contrasting stone in a Romanesque/Italianate design, it is a very significant landmark in Penetanguishene. It has a commanding position on the hillside facing the bay. To the east, the church has a red brick rectory, built in the 1880s, in an Ontario vernacular style. To the west of the church is an open lot with a large grotto. The buildings on the north side of the street are of a variety of dates and styles. The church is visible when approaching from east or west, but the most popular view appears to be from the west where the whole west side of the church is visible.

The criteria suggested for evaluating a new addition were based on principles outlined in *Well-Preserved*, an Ontario Heritage Foundation publication, and the UNESCO/ICOMOS Venice Charter and Appleton Charter. Reference was also made to design criteria established for Savannah, Georgia.

Fundamental principles included the following.

- Show respect for context.
- Create a relationship with the old building through the judicious use of distinctive characteristics from the older building; at the same time the new building should be able to stand on its own merits.
- Design new elevations based on features, proportions, scales, symmetries, materials, colour and texture of adjacent buildings in the streetscape.
- Repeating roof shapes, window patterns, scale and massing, etc. will help integrate the addition into the streetscape and frame the original building. Scale and direction is important.

–New additions should not obscure or detract from the original.

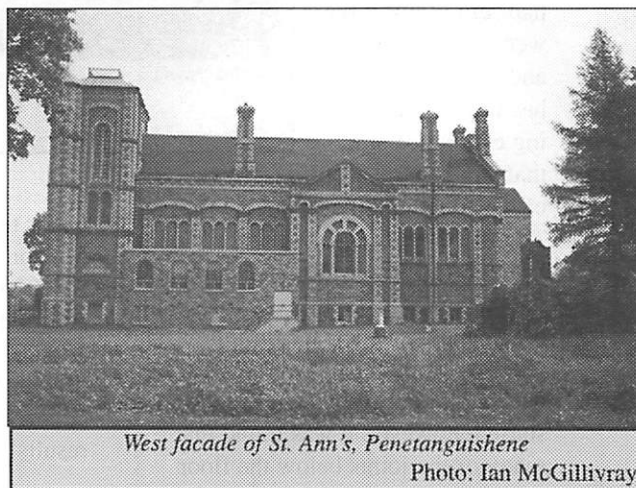
–New additions should be distinguishable from the original and, where attached to the original building, work should be reversible.

–The addition should be differentiated and separated from the original.

–Bridges or connections should be light in visual terms and harmonious in material and detail. If located on the west side of the church, the link should

church use and only the back parts would be removed. This would allow the historic streetscape to be retained with minor change to the available parking.

The accompanying sketches show the church as it is now, the proposed addition, and two other ideas to diminish the effect of the addition on the old church.



West facade of St. Ann's, Penetanguishene

Photo: Ian McGillivray

be located as far back as possible to preserve the historic facade.

–The historic setting should be retained as far as possible, for example in the location and design of parking lots.

–Lines of sight should be maintained, especially of significant architectural features; in this case, the ornate west elevation of the church.

Of the possible locations for a new addition, the west side seemed to be most practical in respect to parking and access to two streets, and is the location preferred by the clergy. The east side offered possibilities of integrating an addition with less disruption and incorporating a wheelchair lift with more direct access to the church.

To integrate the new addition, it was suggested that the side facing the street be broken up into shapes similar to the Ontario vernacular housing, possibly using similar materials or colours. It was suggested that instead of demolishing the existing rectory, the front portion could be retained for rental or

still standing, and the building committee at St. Ann's is discussing what should be done with it.

Ian McGillivray

Ian McGillivray is an architect with Ian McGillivray, Architect, Toronto.

Post Script

November 1999: the Penetanguishene LACAC advises that the church is in the process of building an addition on the west side, but set back enough to the south so that the view from the west of the church in context with the streetscape will not be entirely spoiled. The church has added a small building on the west side to house the elevator. The west transept window is not completely blocked. As for the rectory building on the east, it is

CALL FOR PAPERS

ACO 2000 Conference "Main Street Storeys"

Hosted by Port Hope and Cobourg Branches
April 7, 8, & 9, 2000
Annual General Meeting April 9

Please send a three-sentence summary
of the proposed topic to:
Conference 2000, The ACO, Suite 204, 10
Adelaide St. E., Toronto M5C 1J3

Submissions welcomed on
"Stories about Storeys":

- innovative tales of the treatment of second, third, fourth storeys
- heritage conservation district studies
- Main Street stories

News from and about ACO Members

[Editor's note: This is a new section featuring news and commentary from and about individual Conservancy members. ACORN welcomes submissions from our readers.]

RESTORATION OF ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, HALIFAX, NOV SCOTIA

On a visit to Halifax in October 1998, my wife and I visited the Church of St. George. This beautiful round church was built in 1800 but was almost totally destroyed in a fire in 1994. Like many others of our members, I'm sure, I have been making a small annual contribution to help toward the huge cost of the restoration. It was therefore with great pleasure that we were able to tour the building that has only recently been reopened, although work is ongoing on many elements such as the re-installation of pews and the completion of a

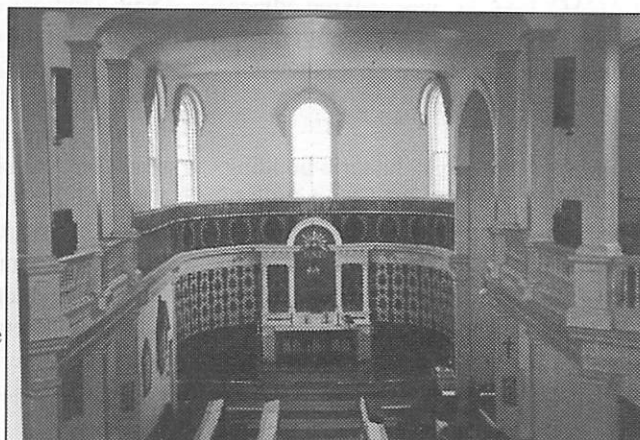
new organ.

We were very fortunate to meet Mrs. Anne West, who gave us a guided tour and a great deal of information on the trials and tribulations of the massive job of raising funds and restoring the church. Mrs. West had retired just a few weeks before the fire and she has been heading the fundraising ever since—a job that I'm sure takes all of her time (and then some!).

The fire destroyed the vast dome of the roof, parts of the walls, and some of the balconies and pews, as well as the organ and the sanctuary furniture. The majority of the main floor seemed to have survived. When construction was started, however, it was found that many of the joints below the floor were rotten and many of the radiating beams had to be replaced. The large round central pier of rubble stone as well as the circular perimeter wall survived however. An interesting discovery in the space below the floor was two brick vaults containing the remains of two of the earliest members of the congregation!

The plaster vaulting in the dome has been beautifully restored and painted and the balcony railings are complete. The sanctuary has been decorated with rich patterns. Work is still required to complete the balcony floors and to install new and refurbished pews. In addition, a new organ has been ordered to be installed to the right of the sanctuary in a restored arch-headed recess.

The daunting cost estimated to totally restore the church is six million dollars. As of a year ago, over \$3.7 million had been raised. Major donors have included all three levels of government. Insurance and government funds

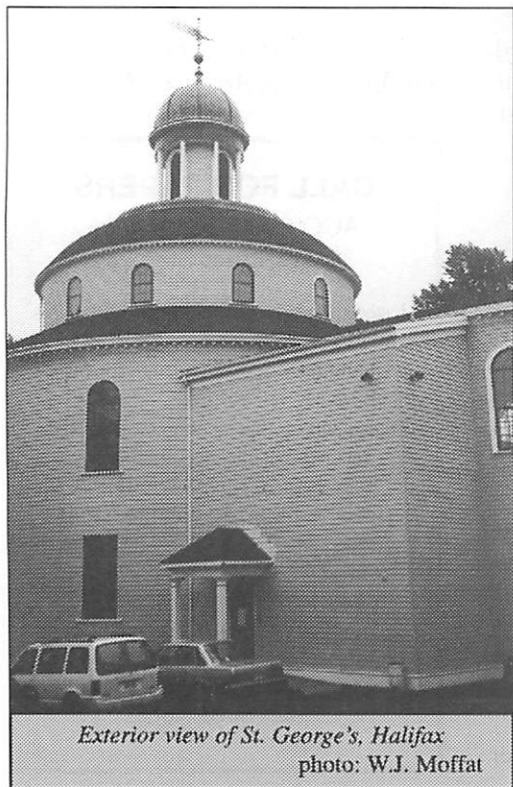


Interior view of St. George's, Halifax showing restored sanctuary.

photo: W.J. Moffat

so far total more than \$3 million. The Molson Foundation has contributed \$50,000 and other foundations have contributed a total in excess of \$50,000. It is obvious that the raising of over \$2 million more will be a herculean task. But with what splendid results!

W.J. Moffat



Exterior view of St. George's, Halifax
photo: W.J. Moffat

Deadlines for Year 2000 **ACORNs**

All branch contributors please note that the deadlines for year 2000 issues of ACORN are:

SPRING (to appear April 1)
January 17

SUMMER (to appear July 1)
April 17

WINTER (to appear December 1)
September 18

Please—submissions by these dates is crucial to getting the issues out on time!

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

Application for New Members

A Note about the Organization and Your Membership

As the ACO is structured, Provincial Council offers programs across Ontario while each of ten Branches runs programs in their geographic area. Provincial Council offers technical advice through the Advisory Board, organizes workshops, publishes ACORN, assembles the annual conference program, writes letters of support, and provides a head office function. Branch programs vary from Branch to Branch. You can request a description of Branch programs by attaching a note to this application.

You can choose to be a member of the ACO either through Provincial Council (an Ontario member) or through one of the Branches (a Branch member).

All memberships are tax-creditable. All members receive ACORN and a discount on registration fees at the annual conference.

STEP 1

Please complete the form below.

Mr./Ms/Miss/Mrs./Dr./No Title - First Name _____ Last Name _____

Organization's Name if applicable _____

Address _____ Postal Code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Fax _____

STEP 2

Please circle your choice of options **A** or **B**.

- A. I would like to become an Ontario member of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario and not be affiliated with any Branch. All my annual dues will support province-wide programs.

Categories of Membership and Annual Dues - Check one.

☐ individual - \$ 30.00 ☐ household - \$ 35.00 ☐ organization - \$ 40.00 ☐ full-time student - \$ 20.00

In addition to my Ontario membership, I would like to make a tax-creditable donation in the amount of \$ _____.

- B. I would rather be a member of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario through the Branch closest to me or another of my choice. A portion of my annual dues will support province-wide programs.

Branch _____

(Do not include payment with option B. See below for instructions.)

STEP 3

Please return this form to: **The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario**
Suite 204, 10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3

If you chose **option A**, please enclose a cheque made payable to "The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario".

If you chose **option B**, we will forward your application to the Branch of your choice, and the Branch will bill you.

ACO Branches

Quinte Region
Cobourg

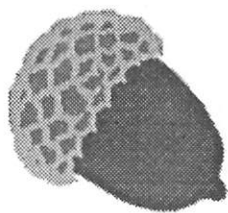
Port Hope
Toronto Region

Hamilton Region
Heritage Cambridge

North Waterloo
South Bruce Grey

London Region
Windsor Region

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario
Suite 204, 10 Adelaide Street East
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